

Oroville Facilities Relicensing
Future Recreation Developments and Operation

A. 4 major influences on future directions

1.) Existing situation

- Diverse water related recreation and open space complex
 - Main Reservoir
 - 3 smaller, diverse character reservoirs
 - 10 miles of River-4 urban setting ?, 6 natural setting
 - 4,000+ acre wildlife area
 - multiple points of interest-natural cultural and historic
- 4th most heavily visited reservoir lake area in Northern California Region
- Complex provides all 12 highest demand recreation activities
- Extremely low percentage of overnight visitors
- Numerous incomplete, undeveloped and dysfunctional facilities
- One of the most costly units to operate in entire state park system
- Fish and Game forced to close portions of area due to lack of O&M support

2.) Significant increased use projected

- Driven by increasing population in region and lack of future capacity at other locations
- Overall doubling during proposed term of license
- Growth rate varies by activity-ranging from less than 1% to 2% per year

3.) Future Oroville Lake levels will be lower

- Projected average year (2002)-is approximate 50-70 lower than past 34 year average

4.) Future need to generate increased revenues to offset O&M costs

- DWR (and state water contractors) required to assure adequate O&M support
- Local government and water district operated reservoirs throughout state at or near self support

B. Strategic responses by major influence

1.) Existing situation

- Build on diverse resources of complex
- Investigate abnormally low percentage of overnight/destination type users
- Complete and correct existing inadequate and dysfunctional facilities

- Investigate relative high cost of operation
- Provide adequate O&M support for both recreation and wildlife units

2.) Projected increased use

- Provide adequate facilities to accommodate future needs and demands for various activities

3.) Projected lower Lake Oroville water levels

- Create less water-level dependent recreation/camping complexes on reservoir
- Extend ramps to low pool levels
- Mitigate by creating facilities to divert users to other reservoirs in complex and low flow portion of Feather River

4.) Need to generate increased revenue

- Encourage higher percentage of revenue producing users (overnight stay)
- Encourage higher occupancy rates through desirable, complete facilities
- Provide group facilities and encourage use in shoulder seasons
- Provide, utilize and promote special event facilities to promote area and encourage visitation
- Provide settings for and encourage private enterprise partnerships

C. Merging of strategic responses I

- Build on diverse resources of complex
- Correct existing problems, provide for future growth, mitigate for future lower reservoir levels and enhance revenues through the following:

2. On diversion pool, Forebay and Afterbay

- Provide appropriate, complete, functional units at primary destination nodes
- Create facilities to mitigate for and divert users from lower pool main reservoir
- Facilities should respond to diverse resources, special qualities and opportunities of each reservoir
- On Oroville Reservoir
- Extend ramps to low pool
- Provide complete functional units at primary destination focal points which are less water level dependent and which encourage higher occupancy rates
- Provide settings for and encourage private enterprise partnerships
- Provide group and special event facilities
- Provide adequate O&M support

3. Low Flow Channel

- Create facilities to mitigate for and divert users from lower pool main reservoir
- Facilities should respond to diverse resources, special qualities and opportunities of low flow channel
- On Oroville Reservoir
- Extend ramps to low pool
- Provide complete functional units at primary destination focal points, which are less water level dependent and which encourage higher occupancy rates
- Provide settings for and encourage private enterprise partnerships
- Provide group and special event facilities
- Provide adequate O&M support

4. Oroville Wildlife area

- Restore and maintain natural habitats
- Create/provide interpretive and wildlife viewing opportunities
- Provide adequate O&M support

E. Facility specific strategic responses

1.) Oroville Reservoir

a. Boating

- Expand Bidwell marine parking by relocating campground
- Extend ramps to lower pool levels
- Expand parking and storage at Lime Saddle and visitors private enterprise marine

b. Swimming

- Provide safe, warm water swimming opportunities at Loafer Creek and Lime Saddle

c. Camping

- Provide/encourage camp activity centers and campground -Lime Saddle, Loafer Creek, Bidwell
- Provide group camping facilities-Lime, Loafer
- Expand camping numbers A.S.A.P. to optimum economic size- Lime Saddle
- Provide secondary activities including trails, interpretive facilities, etc. to encourage higher occupancy rates and shoulder season use Lime Saddle, Loafer, Bidwell

Day use/sightseeing

Etc.

Trails

Etc.

Diversion pool

Etc.

We need to fill this out for all areas. We should use the needs analysis as a framework, but these strategic responses as a guide as to adequacy of the needs analysis and to complete and round out our proposals.